VZCZCXYZ0001 OO RUEHWEB

DE RUEHNR #2597 3191247
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
O 141247Z NOV 08
FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7597

UNCLAS NAIROBI 002597

SIPDIS

DEPARTMENT FOR S/ES-O, AF/E AND AF/E FOR SUSAN DRIANO

E.O. 12958: N/A TAGS: OPDC OVIP PREL

SUBJECT: SOMALIA: OFFICIAL CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE TO THE

PRESIDENT ELECT

REF: SECSTATE 118192

11. Please pass the following congratulatory message in para 2 to the President-elect Barack Obama, from the President of the Transitional Government of the Federal Republic of Somalia.

12. Begin text:

His Excellency Barack Obama President-elect of the United States of America Washington, DC USA.

Excellency and Dear Brother,

Please accept, Excellency and Dear Brother, my heartfelt congratulations on your election as the 44th President of the United States of America.

This is a clear indication of the confidence the American people have in your leadership and vision. I am confident that your Presidency will be the start of a new era for America and the rest of the world.

I would like to express our readiness to work with Your Excellency's new Administration in order to further strengthen our friendly relations that exist between our two countries.

Kindly accept, Excellency and Dear Brother, the assurance of $\ensuremath{\mathsf{my}}$ highest consideration.

Abdullahi Yusuf Ahmed President Federal Republic of Somalia Mogadishu, Somalia

End text RANNEBERGER